MCF Honors Volunteers at Banquet

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Walter E. Martin, Superintendent









Bunker Hill, IN (Sept. 20) - Miami Correctional Facility honored its volunteers at an annual banquet Wednesday evening in the facility chapel.

Fifty-one volunteers and their spouses were present, as well as nine staff members. The dinner was catered by the Deedsville United Methodist Church, pastored by the Rev. William Babb, who also is a chaplain at MCF.

Awards were presented to the five volunteers for Volunteer of the Year: Gary Bargerhuff of Kokomo for Substance Abuse Volunteer of the Year; Julie Butus of Peru for Community Service Provider of the Year; Ada and David Perry of Twelve Mile for Religious Volunteers of the Year; and Glen Atkinson of Greenwood and Alonzo Henderson of Kokomo for Mentors of the Year. All volunteers who were present also received a Certificate of Appreciation and a lapel pin for their service to the facility.

Volunteers at MCF donated 5,839.5 hours of their own time in offender programs. This is more than 1,000 hours over last year's total. Ada and David Perry, who are with Trinity Holiness Chapel, donated 608 hours themselves in working with offenders. Alonzo Henderson put in 259 hours, and Glen Atkinson put in 172 hours. Julie Butus also helped throughout the year in the facility's Re-Entry program putting in 26 hours. Gary Bargerhuff, along with other members of the Substance Abuse program, donated 291 hours to MCF.

"Volunteers are a very important part of the daily operation of MCF. Without them, many programs could not take place. The volunteers are respected and appreciated by staff and offenders alike for their service. They come into an environment in which many would not tread. They also provide a service that is greatly needed by many of these men, whom society has discarded," according to Walter E. Martin, Superintendent.

Miami Correctional Facility has 19 groups from the surrounding area which donated time in various religious programs. It also has 19 Community Service Providers who came into MCF last year to assist in the Re-Entry program. And there are seven individuals who serve as mentors to the men in the Purposeful Living Units Serve program; and nine other individual volunteers involved in various programs. Nearly 200 volunteers are donating their time at MCF.

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About The Villages

The Villages is Indiana's largest nonprofit child and family services agency, with nearly 30 years of experience working throughout Indiana to ensure that children who have been abused, abandoned or neglected can be raised in a loving family setting. In addition to foster care and adoption, current services include: Healthy Families services, individual and group counseling, child care services, family

preservation and reunification services, and independent and transitional living services.

About The Department of Correction

The Department employs over 8,000 employees and houses 24,000 adult and juveniles in 32 facilities, ranging from minimum to maximum custody, prison camps, juvenile facilities and work release centers. The Department's home page on the Internet can be found at: http://www.in.gov/indcorrection. The Department's Re-entry Site can be found: http://www.reentry.in.gov.